

REMARKS

In the Final Office action dated December 16, 2004, claims 17 – 29 were allowed, claims 1, 3 – 6, 10, and 12 – 16 were rejected, and claims 2, 7 – 9, and 11 were objected to. In response, Applicants have suggested amending claims 1, 10, 28 and 29 and canceling claims 2 and 11. Applicants hereby request reconsideration of the application in view of the amended claims and the below-provided remarks.

I. Claim amendments to correct informalities

Applicants have proposed amendments to claims 28 and 29 to correct informalities. Claim 28 is amended to refer to claim 27 instead of claim 26. This amendment provides proper antecedent basis for the term “said optical frequency” in claim 28. Claim 29 is amended to refer to claim 28 instead of claim 26. This amendment provides proper antecedent basis for the term “said reference interferometer” in claim 29.

II. Allowable subject matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 17 – 29 are allowed.

Applicants also note that claims 2 and 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 was dependent on independent claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include all of the limitations of claim 2 and canceled claim 2. Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered in order to move the case to allowance. Claim 11 was dependent on independent claim 10. Applicants have amended claim 10 to include all of the limitations of claim 11 and canceled claim 11. Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered in order to move the case to allowance.

III. Claims 3 – 9

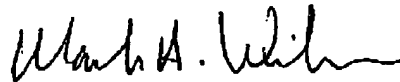
Claims 3 – 9 are dependent on claim 1. Applicants assert that claims 3 – 9 are allowable based on an allowable claim 1.

IV. Claim 12 – 16

Claims 12 – 16 are dependent on claim 10. Applicants assert that claims 12 – 16 are allowable based on an allowable claim 10.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the suggested amendments and the remarks made herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mark A. Wilson
Reg. No. 43,994

Wilson & Ham
PMB: 348
2530 Berryessa Road
San Jose, CA 95132
Phone: (925) 249-1300
Fax: (925) 249-0111